

HONORING THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE PERSONNEL OF CENTRAL MAINE REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS, SOMERSET REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS CENTER AND LIFEFLIGHT OF MAINE COMMUNICATIONS

**HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2013*

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the courageous acts and professionalism of dispatchers from Central Maine Regional Communications (CMRCC), Somerset Regional Communications Center (SRCC), and LifeFlight of Maine Communications in the rescue of a grievously injured snowmobiler. These agencies were the recipients of the Critical Incident of the Year Award from the Maine chapter of the National Emergency Numbers Association.

On the morning of March 8, 2012, Bonnie Sancomb and several others embarked on a snowmobile ride in Somerset County, Maine. During the course of the adventure Ms. Sancomb missed a tight turn, which catapulted her 45 feet from the marked trail and pinned her underneath the 500-pound sled. All the while, the snowmobile track continued to turn, shredding Ms. Sancomb's clothes and eventually her skin, exposing her internal organs.

About 15 minutes later, the rest of Ms. Sancomb's party realized her absence and backtracked to the scene of the accident. A member of the party dialed 911 and was received by a dispatcher at CMRCC, who immediately notified SRCC, mobilizing Maine Warden Service units and LifeFlight of Maine. Complicating the response efforts was the fact that the accident occurred in a remote Unorganized Territory, 13 miles outside of Rockwood Township. All parties remained in constant contact during the rescue mission, which was critically important as the accident's location was determined solely from the GPS coordinates of the caller's cell phone.

After close to an hour of sustained communication, LifeFlight of Maine arrived first on the scene and began treating Ms. Sancomb, who only had a few minutes left to live. The truly incredible and coordinated communication efforts by the dispatchers and rescue workers from CMRCC, SRCC and LifeFlight are responsible for saving Ms. Sancomb's life.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commending Jennifer Berube, Darren Curtis, Joanna Kenefick, Jessica Mihalik, Susan Poulin, Shane Hunt, Margaret Parady, Stephen Crowe, JR Roebuck, and all other dispatchers and first responders involved, for their courageous and truly professional display of emergency communications.

HONORING MRS. CELAINE GORDON COLEMAN

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2013*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Celaine Gordon Coleman, who is a remarkable public servant.

Mrs. Celaine Gordon Coleman who is 95 years old was born June 29, 1917 in the Lebanon Community of Holmes County, says it seems that "folks have forgotten about what we went through to make things better for these children today. The children need to know their history. Folks don't talk about it much anymore."

The daughter of the late Eddie and Celaine Gordon, Mrs. Coleman did whatever she could to help move the civil rights movement in Holmes County. "I used to cook for them," she said. She was also one of the early pioneers of the Head Start Program as it came to the hills of Holmes County. She served as a cook for years at the Mt. Olive Head Start Program.

Mrs. Coleman also served the Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church as Sunday School Secretary for 50-plus years. The church is one of the oldest black churches in Holmes County and it was once a very prominent church school for blacks. Although her health will not permit her to attend now, she once had perfect church attendance.

Mrs. Coleman would walk for miles sometimes just to attend church. On muddy days she would carry her good shoes in her hand and put them on once she got to the church, and she would be on time as well. Through her hard-working spirit, she was also instrumental in positively impacting the lives of many black children in Holmes County. She is the widow of the late Mr. Monroe Coleman and the mother of three adult children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Celaine Gordon Coleman for her dedication to serving others and giving back to the African American community.

HONORING RIVERDALE TEMPLE

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2013*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, a centerpiece of any community can usually be found in a neighborhood religious institution. In Riverdale one such institution is the Riverdale Temple which is celebrating its 65th year as a liberal Jewish congregation.

In February 1947 a small group met in the Riverdale Neighborhood House to discuss the establishment of a new temple. By September, the charter establishing it was signed and 67 families founded the Riverdale Temple, the first Jewish congregation in Riverdale. The Honorable Francis J. Bloustein was named first president and a dynamic rabbi infused with enthusiasm for the new project, Charles E. Shulman, was recruited from Chicago to become the first rabbi of the "liberal congregation."

The new Riverdale Temple initially met at the Arrowhead Inn and a Religious School, Sisterhood, and Youth Group were formed. In 1952, the building was demolished and the Riverdale Temple was homeless. These difficult times drew the congregants closer and services were conducted first at Christ Church, then at Riverdale Presbyterian Church, and Religious School classes moved from the Riverdale Country School to the Fieldston School. Yom Kippur services were held in Horace Mann School. In June 1953, the cornerstone

for the new Riverdale Temple was laid, in March 1954, the new building was opened and, in September 1954, the building was formally dedicated.

All are welcome at the Riverdale Temple no matter what their approach to Judaism or degree of Jewish literacy. The temple is founded on the principals of faith, mitzvot and tikkun olam and offers communal support. It has a beautiful sanctuary with a rich and evolving musical tradition.

I congratulate the Riverdale Temple on 65 years of giving unstintingly to the community and in its tradition of welcoming everyone. I have visited the Temple many times and have felt its inspiration and its warmth. It has truly brought the Riverdale and surrounding communities closer together.

MS. SYDNEY EVERETT

**HON. WM. LACY CLAY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2013*

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Miss Sydney Everett, an outstanding high school graduate of Metro Academic & Classical High School in the great city of St. Louis, Missouri. Indeed, there are many recent high school graduates who deserve significant accolades for their commendable academic achievements. However, Sydney is a rare instance of intellectual rigor coupled with an enduring and heartfelt commitment to the well-being of her community. Given her extensive track record of high academic standings and numerous extracurricular activities, Sydney was offered over \$1.2 million in school based scholarships and academic grants from nine institutions of higher education.

Sydney Everett's story is that of a young American woman whose tenacity and resolve have allowed her to thrive in her academics and extracurricular activities. While attending Metro Academy, she immersed herself in the most rigorous curriculum available at her high school as a candidate for a full International Baccalaureate diploma. She has always challenged herself to broaden her understanding and extend the horizon of her knowledge. Yet, her drive extends far beyond the walls of the classroom.

Sydney is deeply involved in the functions of her school with an extensive and well-rounded resume of extracurricular activities including her involvement in her school's student council, concert band, policy debate team, and literary magazine. Moreover, she genuinely values the time she gives back to the St. Louis community as a volunteer at a local church and elementary school.

Before her junior year, Sydney served as a Congressional Page and proudly represented my district in the United States House of Representatives. Additionally, she participated in my Congressional Youth Cabinet, which is an organization I founded to provide outstanding high school students across the St. Louis area with the opportunity to advise myself and my staff on key local and national issues. With her hard work ethic and strong social conscience, Sydney was a valuable advisor to my office.

Sydney has left an indelible impact on her school and her community, and she will be sorely missed when she advances to college.